

to work nor do I think they handled their material any more successfully than has Miss Petry in this novel.

The central character is not Lutie Johnson, the young negro mother, nor is it Bub, her young son, that she is trying so hard to keep from the evils that stalk the Harlem neighborhood where they are forced to live. Rather, the central character is simply a street, a city street. A street that reeks with evil, that offers all sorts of amusements, difficulties and temptations, especially to the young and to the attractive. Lutie and Bub both found this out, though in different ways.

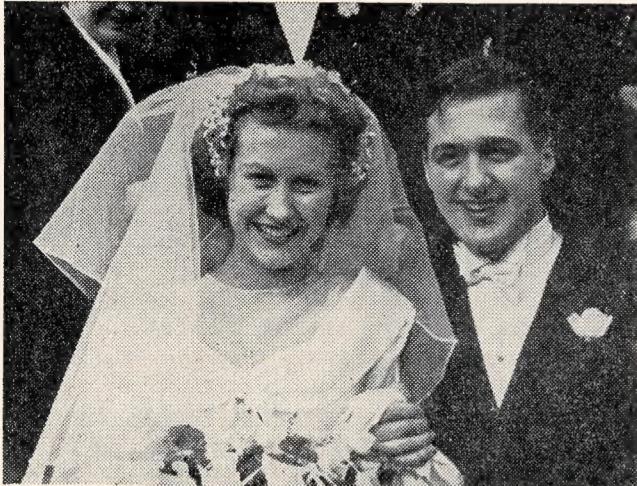
It is a story of white economic discrimination; an economic system that permits Petry to say in one part of her story:

"That's what's wrong. We don't have time enough nor money enough to live like other people because the women have to work like drudges and the men stand by idle."

If you want to read an exciting, well written commentary on our present day life, don't pass by this novel that offers in good measure excellent reading pleasure.

Clayton C. Campbell

WEDDING BELLS



Janie Matecunas and Arthur Tumosa soon after they became Mr. and Mrs. on Feb. 24th. The picture was taken in front of St. Agnes Church.

Hodges-Rial

Former Captain Ben Rial, one of the Bataan boys who was a prisoner of the Japanese during the war, was married on March 1st to miss Bernice Hodges, of Mobile. The wedding took place at the Dauphin Way Baptist Church. Dr. H. H. Hobbs officiating.

The bride was given in Marriage by her brother, Dr. D. E. Hodges, and was attended by his sister, Mrs. Clifford Albritton, while her sister-in-law, Mrs. D. E. Hodges, was bride maid. Ben Rial's best man was Capt. Edwin Sundberg. Walter McKinzie, Judge Clifford Albritton and Isaac Cunningham were ushers. Ben Rial, who is assistant cashier at the Fairhope Bank, and his wife, will make their home in Fairhope.

O B I T S ...

The Northwestern Polish Folk Dancers and NW House, extend condolences to their fellow member, Emily Mucha, on the sudden death of her father, Mr. Julian Mucha, March 7th. Requiem High Mass was sung at the old Polish church of St. Stephen's. Interment took place on March 11th at St. Adalbert's cemetery.

Mr. Mucha is survived by his wife and five children: Stanley, Josephine, Irene, Emily and Jeanette. God grant his soul eternal peace.

A YEAR SINCE PARTING



April 24th will be a year since the death of F/O Parker Totten (right), who died for his country over Germany. Parker owned every fine quality and was well loved by all who knew him. He was an active lad, a good organizer, an excellent folk dancer and had a winning personality. He was a folk festival vet of the School of Organic Education. He also taught folk dancing at Francis Parker Progressive School in San Diego, California. Parker was born in N. Dakota, but when a child, the family settled in Fairhope in order that the children might receive the excellent progressive form of education the Organic School offered. And all children grew up progressive children. Ed Totten, shown on the picture, formerly a Lt. with the Naval-Marine Air Force, now attends the University of Chicago, studying World Government as a means to eliminate war and to propagate Universal Brotherhood.

A few months prior to his death Parker married the very charming and loveable Bettie Eckhardt of Boulder, Colo., his sweetheart of many years. She, too, is now a student at the U. of Chicago. Parker's sincerity, his fine friendship, and his personality live in the memory of all who knew him. Eternal peace be yours, dear friend.

WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?

The correspondent for the Chicago Lithuanian Daily News in Germany, writes that many German prisoners are now returning from Russian Camps to the American Zone. All these returnees are the sickly and the maimed who were taken prisoners around Stalingrad. Before release, the prisoners, of no further labor value to the Russians, go through a special course prepared by Red propagandists. In these courses they are daily indoctrinated with hatred for United States. The instructor each morning inquires of the prisoners to be released:

"Who destroyed your cities?
Who slaughtered your women and children?
Who devastated your country?"
And the prisoners must reply in chorus:
"Die Amerikaner!" (The Americans)
Then he inquires: "Who will rebuild your cities?
And who will free your nation from enslavement?"
"The Soviets!"

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THE FRIENDLY PAPER FOR FRIENDS

DON VARNAS POST NO. 986 AMERICAN LEGION

The Directors of Don Varnas Post No. 986 are grateful to the editor and staff of Viltis for their help and wholehearted cooperation in helping us to organize. This wholehearted support has given them confidence and inspired their work. You may believe us that it is much easier to work when there is encouragement than without it. We are thankful also for this opportunity to further our cause.

Our cause is to have all World War II veteran's of Lithuanian extraction join our American Legion Post, The Don Varnas Post No. 986. In many respects we are like the Darius-Girenas Post, with the exception that we would like the younger generation to be our members. But, don't get us wrong for we have the kindest regard for the Darius-Girenas Post. They not only have an enviable record in the American Legion, but they have helped us in our organizing. They know that most of us have been together as brother members of athletic and fraternal organizations before the war. Now that we are veterans of this war we still would like to continue these connections by having a Post of our own. The Darius-Girenas Post respects these wishes of ours and applauds our efforts. With such backers, "the sky is the limit" for our goal.

We have taken the name of Don Varnas, a popularized version of Dominic Varnas, a Lithuanian who was a Lieutenant in the U. S. Army. He was captured by the Germans and killed while a prisoner in one of their camps. He was not famous, in the national sense of the word, but he was extremely liked by all who came in contact with him. He was from Brighton Park, where he was very active in the church, social, and athletic activities. Altogether he was a model for many of us Lithuanians to follow. It was deep regret his many friends felt when they heard of his unfortunate death. We are proud to carry his name on our flag.

We would like to give you an idea who some of our officers are. The Commander is Jack L. Jatis (Juozaitis) of Marquette Park, who was actively engaged in organizing Lithuanian athletics, participated and still does in the doings of Knights of Lithuania, and is now Bailiff for Judge Zuris. Vice-Commander is John T. Zepaltas of Brighton Park, who was active in the Holy Name of that parish, and now is a tavern owner there. John Shulmistras, a Brighton Park realtor, is Adjutant; and Bernard Kvietkus, an active Knight of Lithuania and Holy Name of Brighton Park is Vice-Adjutant. Algird Brazis, our Finance Officer, and Stanley Molis, Publicity Director, both were pre-war associates of Paul Saltimbras on his radio hour. Mary Barnett, formerly of WACS now connected with Sandaras, is a director and an organizer of the Women's Auxiliary. We could name you more notables but space — but — but they haven't joined up yet.

An excellent opportunity to meet these people will be the Invitational Dance the Don Varnas Post is sponsoring for the 28 of April 1946 at the Marquette Hall at 6908 S. Western Avenue. This will be strictly by invitation only. To any who are interested please contact members or the officers for tickets that are good for couples. There will be dancing and professional entertainment. Our debut so to speak; our coming-out party. A party on us — that is no admission, but don't worry we'll clip you at the bar.

The Don Varnas Post of the American Legion meets every month on the first Monday of each month. Their

Headquarters are the Marquette Hall at 6908 S. Western Avenue. Refreshments are usually served after meetings. To eligible veteran's of Lithuanian extraction we extend an invitation to come to our meetings and visit us, and if you like us to join up. The next meeting will be on Monday, April 1 1946.

Stanley Molis, Publicity Director
Ray Termenas, Publicity Director
Clem Globis, Executive Secretary.

INVITATION DANCE

Veterans of World War II of Lithuanian Extraction Are Cordially Invited To Attend the

INVITATION DANCE

Sponsored by the
DON VARNAS AMERICAN LEGION POST

Sunday, April 28, '46

Marquette Hall, 6908 So. Western Ave.

Write for free tickets to
V. F. Beliajus, 1028 E. 63rd St., Chicago 37.

COMMENTS and LETTERS

FROM THE FOLK FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

March 14, 1946

Howdy Vyts!

Greetings and congratulations for the wonderful job you are doing with "Viltis". I have read every issue and have come to feel that I know each one of your friends. Won't you tell them all to join us at the twelfth annual National Folk Festival to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, May 22nd-25th, as a part of Cleveland's great Sesquicentennial celebration?

We want to make this, our first peace-time Festival in five years, a grand re-union of all our former participants, many of whom have been scattered throughout the world for the last five years.

Never has it been so evident to all people that the "brotherhood-of-man" idea must become a reality. You have surely done your part in furthering this "brotherhood", — just by letting us all know you. We all know Lithuania better and appreciate its struggles more because we know you. We would not have known you had it not been for the National Folk Festival. In this same way, all our participants of varied races and nationalities have come to know and like each other as individuals. These friendships formed have given us an interest in and an understanding of many countries.

We feel now that continued interchange of the deeply-rooted folk songs, music and dances which have poured into our country from practically every land might well be one of the post-war steps in helping to bring about more genuine understanding and stronger unity among our own people of varied cultural backgrounds, as the years pass. There is every reason to believe that our work in the future will be even more needed than it has been in the past. We must all stick together. You were with us during the fine peace years in Chicago and Washington; during some of the dark war years in Philadelphia; and now that the war is over, we know that you and our friends who read "Viltis" will stand by and join us in our victory celebration for 1946.

Where is Kazy? We shall expect him with his bride. Where are the others from Fairhope ad Chicago whom you brought to us? We look forward to greeting you